

[English]

### **Re-opening of Punalur Paper Mill**

2467 SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state

(a) whether the Union Government have taken any steps for re-opening of Punalur Paper mill,

(b) whether the Government have received any proposal from the State Government of Kerala and present management of the mill or from any other Government undertakings,

(c) if so, the details thereof, and

(d) the reaction of the Union Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (PROF P J KURIEN) (a) to (d) State Government of Kerala had requested the Government of India to consider taking over the management of M/s Punalur Paper Mills Ltd by Hindustan Newsprint Limited (HNL). HNL, after conducting a feasibility study have found that it will not be viable to run the Punalur Paper Mills Ltd in the present State of its plant and machinery and have, therefore, expressed their inability to take over the management of M/s Punalur Paper Mills Ltd

### **Interaction Amongst the Municipal Committees**

2468 SHRI PRATAPRAO B BHONSLE Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state

(a) whether in order to develop urban areas the Government propose to take some steps to ensure better municipal manage

ment and smoother interaction amongst the municipal Committees; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M ARUNACHALAM) (a) and (b) In order to provide a constitutional status and a common framework to all the urban local bodies throughout the country, this Ministry has introduced in the Lok Sabha, the Constitution (Seventy Third Amendment) Bill on 16.9.91. The Bill at present is under consideration of the Joint Committee of the Parliament. Provisions incorporated in the Bill provide for putting on a firmer footing the relationship between the State Government and Urban Local Bodies with reference to the functions and taxations, powers and arrangements for revenue sharing. Other provisions of the Bill provide for the Constitution of the Municipalities, their powers (including financial powers, functions, reservations of seat for SC/ST and women, regular conduct of elections, durations of Municipalities, setting up of a Finance Commission at the State level at regular intervals to review financial position of Municipalities, Audit of accounts of Municipal Corporations by the Comptroller and Auditor General of India, Elections to the Municipality and disqualification for membership etc.

### **Decline in Index of Industrial Production**

2469 SHRI RUPCHAND PAL Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state

(a) whether general index of industrial production has recorded a decline in the first six months of 1991-92 as compared to the growth of 8.6 percent in the same period during 1990-91,

(b) if so, the rate of decline recorded in

the first six months of 1991-92; and

(c) the sectors in which industrial production has declined?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) On the basis of the Index of Industrial Production compiled by the Central Statistical Organisation, the overall rate of growth during April-September 1991-92 was (-) 0.9 per cent over the corresponding period during 1990-91. As regards sector-wise production, the manufacturing sector registered a decline of (-) 2.8 per cent, and mining sector (-) 2.2 per cent over the corresponding period of last year. The electricity sector registered a growth of 8.1 per cent during the same period.

**Out of Turn Allotment of DDA Flats to Orthopedically Handicapped and Blind Persons**

2470 DR. AMRITLAL KALIDAS PATEL: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Delhi Development Authority invited applications from orthopedically handicapped and blind persons for out of turn allotment of DDA flats in August, 1989;

(b) if so, details thereof who applied for such allotment;

(c) the number of applicant allotted flats by DDA so far;

(d) the number of applications rejected and the reasons therefor; and

(e) whether any such applicants were given personal hearing by DDA's Vice Chairman during 1991, if so, the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Approximately 2076 applications were received.

(c) Allotment has been made in respect of 52 cases.

(d) 1137 applications were rejected as the same were not found deserving for allotment of a flat on out-of-turn basis.

(e) Yes, Sir. Deserving amongst them were forwarded to the authority competent to make the out-of-turn allotments.

[Translations]

**Report of the Committee Discontinuing Compulsory English Language Paper in U.P.S.C Examinations**

2471. SHRI SHIV SHARAN VERMA.  
SHRI BARE LAL JATAV:  
SHRI DAU DAYAL JOSHI:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have examined the report submitted by the committee constituted to discontinue the compulsory English language paper in the examinations conducted by UPSC,

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons for the delay?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA). (a) to (c). The report submitted by the Committee in the matter is still under consideration of the Government.